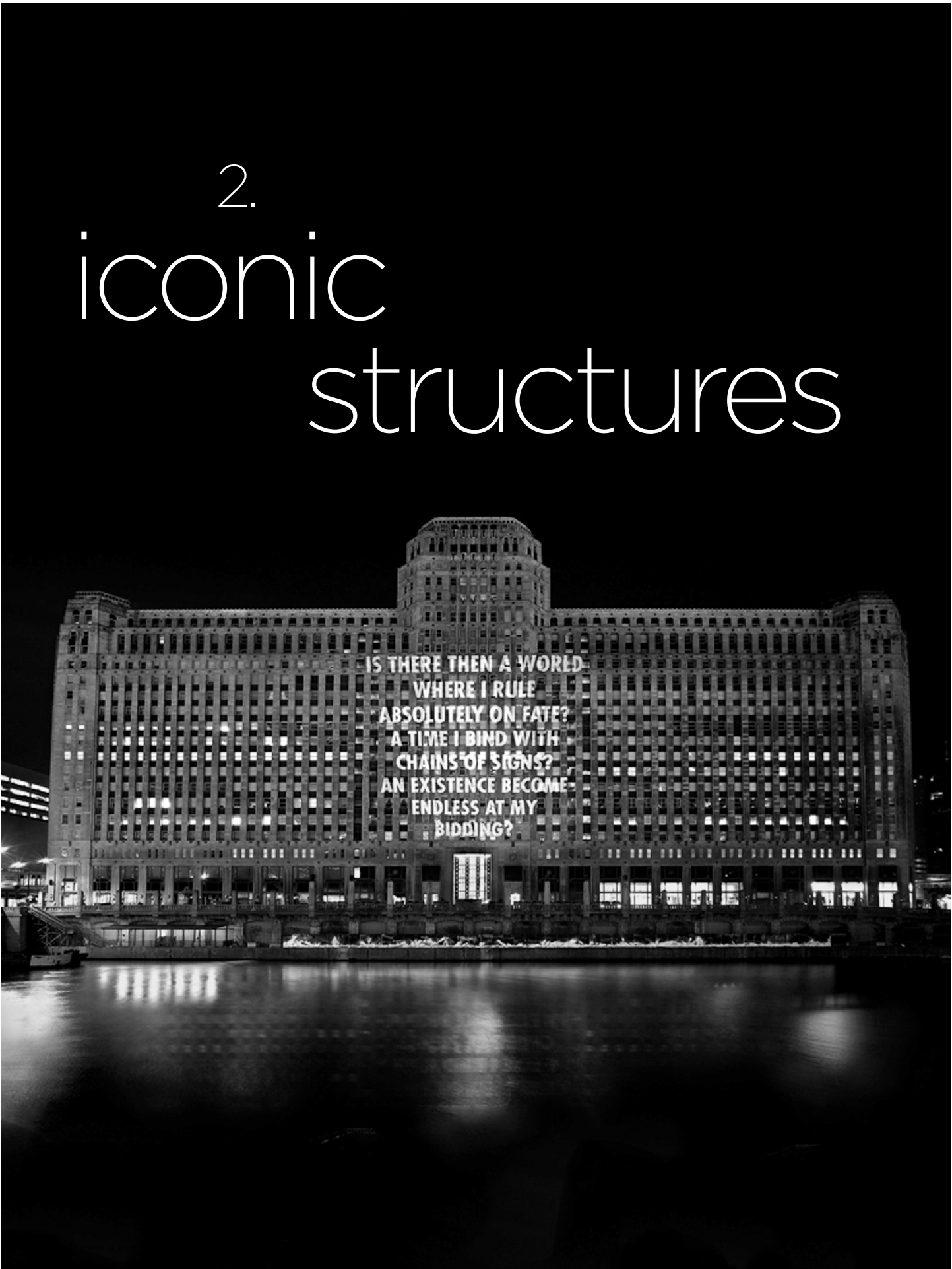




June 2013 | A Lighting Framework Plan for Chicago







## 2. Iconic Structures

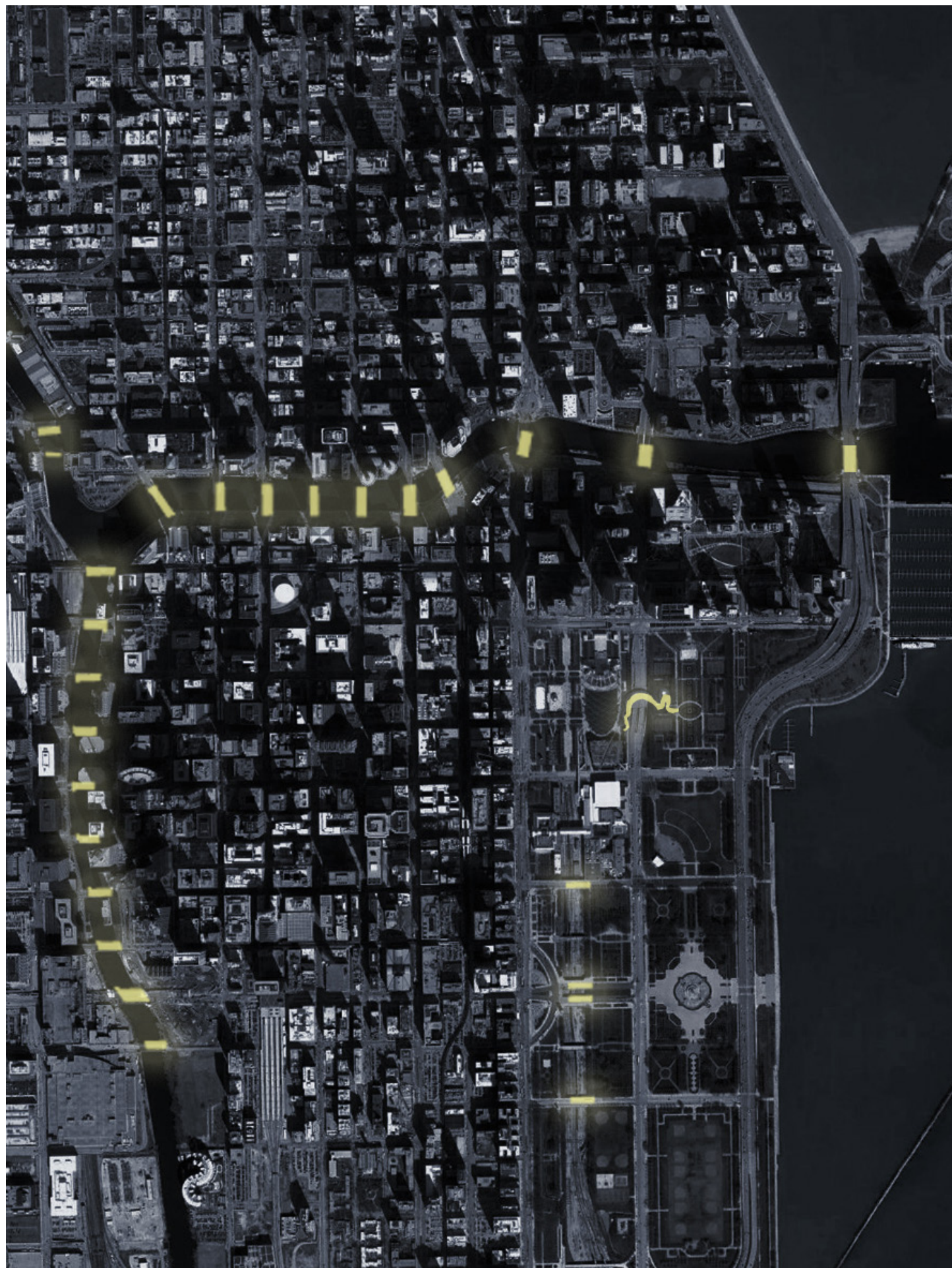
The architecture of Chicago has influenced and reflects the history of American architecture. Since most of the buildings within the downtown were destroyed by the Great Chicago Fire in 1871, most Chicago buildings are noted for their originality rather than their antiquity.

Architectural styles such as The Chicago School, Prairie style, and the revival of Neoclassical architecture originated in Chicago. Chicago was known as the birthplace of the skyscraper with the Home Insurance Building in 1885. Structural innovations continued into the 20th century that allowed super tall buildings such as the Willis Tower to be built.

Chicago continues to build new innovative structures such as Frank Gehry's Pritzker Pavilion, Renzo Piano's addition to The Art Institute, and Jeanne Gang's Aqua Tower.

It is likely that more will come, therefore LFP designs should be flexible enough to be able to incorporate the next new iconic buildings that are still to be built.





### 3.

# Bridges

The city is recognized as an international innovator in the engineering of bridges. The bridge type most associated with the city is the trunnion bascule. Trunnion bascule bridges have leaves that rotate on a shaft, or trunnion, located on the shore. Chicago has 180 bridges spanning the Chicago River - 37 are operable - more than any other city in the world. They are opened about 30,000 times a year. The oldest bridge has been in operation since 1913.

The Wells Street Bridge is arguably the most interesting bridge in the city. After Great Chicago Fire in 1871 incinerated the original wooden bridge, Wells Street got its first steel bridge the following year. It was a swing bridge, which was then replaced by a steam-powered swing bridge in 1888, which was then converted to run on electricity about a decade later. A second deck was added in 1896. Today it is just one of two bridges that carry elevated trains across the Chicago River.

These bridges exist beyond the downtown area and become important elements that connect different residential neighborhoods that are separated by the river. Moreover, they serve to mark distance traveled en route from one place to another. At the same time, they also help people to mentally connect their current location back to the Loop by being on the Chicago River and knowing that the river operates as an artery to the heart of the city.



### 3. bridges

